Frequently used bitwise operation tricks for competitive programming - Along with intuition of why the trick works.

- 1) Check if the number is odd X & 1 = 1
- (Works because only the last bit remains after operation)
- 2) Same logic be extended to check if the kth bit is set

$$(X >> k) & 1 = 1$$

3) Flip the kth bit

$$X = X ^ (1 << k)$$

4) Set and Unset Kth bit - Instead of XOR use OR/AND

$$X = X | (1 << k)$$

$$X = X & \sim (1 << k)$$

- 5) Count set bits [Unlike other tips this one is C++ specific) Use __builtin_popcount||, very fast.
- 6) Check if the number is a power of 2

$$X & (X - 1) = 0$$

(Power of 2 has only one bit set, what happens if we subtract one from such a number, think AND with that)

7) Super handy in solving problems many times

$$A + B = (A | B) + (A & B)$$

(Proof - OR counts every bit once, we want to count bit set in both twice, hence the additional AND too).